



The President's Daily Brief

~~Top Secret~~ 4 February 1967



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DAILY BRIEF
4 FEBRUARY 1967

1. Vietnam

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2. China

The most striking thing about Mao's reappearance yesterday was Lin Piao's failure to show up too. It was a reception for the visiting Albanian defense minister and Lin Piao should have been there.

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Chou En-lai, now third ranking in the leadership, would be the man most likely to benefit if Lin Piao should fade from the scene. Chou is relatively more pragmatic and flexible than his principal colleagues, however, and for this reason Mao probably does not regard him as an acceptable successor.

3. Nicaragua

Tomorrow is election day. Isolated violence is almost certain, but no major outbreak is expected. The opposition is now talking of postelection guerrilla activity to overthrow the regime.

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4. Sino-Soviet Relations

The tough police foray on the Chinese embassy grounds in Moscow yesterday is just one more sign that Soviet patience is wearing thin.

In Peking, the evacuation of Soviet dependents got under way today. The Soviet women and children were treated to a wild and lurid anti-Soviet demonstration at the airport where the mob carried a big bloody effigy of Kosygin swinging from a gallows and shouted such slogans as "Crush the dog's head of Brezhnev." There will be some interesting stories circulating around Moscow in the coming days.

The Soviets are not the only foreigners being given the Mao treatment. The Czechs, Hungarians, East Germans, Mongolians, and the French have also gotten it.

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5. Saudi Arabia

The Egyptians bombed that Saudi town again yesterday, according to the Saudi Government. The US Army attaché this week visited the bombed town, the target of at least four recent Egyptian raids. He found it to be a major supply base and safe haven for the Yemeni royalists.

6. Chile

Quiet Soviet diplomacy is beginning to pay dividends in Chile, some two years after the resumption of diplomatic relations. A \$57 million trade and aid agreement signed last month gives some economic substance to relations between the two countries. The Soviets are also doing an effective job with their cultural and scientific programs in Chile.

Soviet collaboration with the Frei government has been an embarrassment to the local Communists.

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